

Message Text

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14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

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R 010620Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2817

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 9202

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, CB

SUBJECT: LON NON'S PLANS

REF: STATE 172564 AND 174639

1. DURING MY SEPTEMBER 1 FAREWELL CALL ON LON NOL I MENTIONED THAT I HAD RECEIVED WORD FROM WASHINGTON THAT THE MARSHAL HAD ASKED BGEN LON NON TO RETURN TO PHNOM PENH. I SAID THAT WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR NON AND THE REPUBLIC IF HE WERE TO PROLONG HIS STAY IN THE UNITED STATES. I SUGGESTED THAT THE MARSHAL MIGHT WISH TO CONFER ON NON THE TITLE OF "ROVING AMBASSADOR" WHICH WOULD ENABLE HIM TO SPEAK WITH GREATER AUTHORITY IN U.S. CIRCLES AND MIGHT ALSO ENABLE THE MARSHAL, SHOULD HE SO DESIRE TO EMPLOY NON AS A PERSONAL EMISSARY TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS. ON REFLECTION, IT SEEMED TO ME NECESSARY TO OUR OVERALL PURPOSE OF KEEPING NON AWAY FROM CAMBODIA TO SUGGEST TO THE MARSHAL WAYS HE MIGHT EMPLOY NON IN THEIR MUTUAL INTERESTS.

2. THE MARSHAL REPLIED THAT HE WOULD CONSIDER THIS SUGGESTION. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF THE RETURN OF COLONEL TAN SUOR.

3. COMMENT. WITH LON NOL ONE CAN NEVER PREDICT THE
SECRET

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ULTIMATE REACTION, BUT I BELIEVE THE ODDS FAVOR HIS LETTING NON REMAIN IN THE UNITED STATES.
SWANK

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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